

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (new) A method of treating or preventing inflammation comprising the step of administering to a subject an isolated *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or variant thereof.

Claim 18 (new) The method as claimed in claim 17 wherein the isolated *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein is capable of inhibiting the activation of NF- κ B.

Claim 19 (new) The method as claimed in claim 17 used in the treatment or prevention of inflammatory bowel disease.

Claim 20 (new) The method as claimed in claim 17 used in the treatment or prevention of rheumatoid/autoimmune arthritis.

Claim 21 (new) The method as claimed in claim 17 used in the treatment or prevention of any chronic disease wherein NF- κ B is transcriptionally activated.

Claim 22 (new) The method as claimed in claim 17 used in the treatment or prevention of any one or more diseases selected from the group consisting of autoimmune arthritis or other autoimmune diseases, asthma, septic shock, lung fibrosis, glomerulonephritis, atherosclerosis and autoimmune encephalomyelitis.

Claim 23 (new) The method as claimed in claim 17 used in the treatment or prevention of soft tissue injury.

Claim 24 (new) The method as claimed in claim 17 used in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of any chronic disease wherein NF- κ B is transcriptionally activated.

Claim 25 (new) The method as claimed in claim 17 wherein the isolated *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein comprises amino acid sequence SEQ ID No. 1 or derivative or fragment or mutant or variant thereof.

Claim 26 (new) The method as claimed in claim 17 wherein the isolated *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein contains the redox active peptide sequence of SEQ ID No. 2.

Claim 27 (new) An isolated *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein having potent immune-suppressive effects.